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**PATENT  
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF : David G. Bell, et al.

FOR : **SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR  
DISTRIBUTED ADMINISTRATION OF  
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ELECTRONIC  
MARKETS**

SERIAL NO. : Unknown

FILED : Herewith

EXAMINER : Unknown

ART UNIT : Unknown

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. : D/A1057  
XER 2 0440

JC971 U.S. PTO  
10/042963  
01/09/02

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, 1.98 and MPEP § 609, applicants submit the following Disclosure Statement concerning art of which the applicants are aware. A copy of PTO-1449 is enclosed herewith.

This Information Disclosure Statement is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein or submitted herewith is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

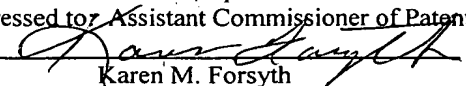
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b) exists.

Under § 1.98(a)(3), no concise explanation of relevance is required for information that is in the English language. Accordingly, the enclosed patent requires no further explanation (or no translation is available).

**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

"Express Mail" Mailing Label Number: EL 852686776US

I hereby certify that this **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT** is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on January 9, 2002.

By:   
Karen M. Forsyth

Date: 1-9-02

Consideration of the appropriate paragraph(s) indicated below is respectfully requested:

☒ **WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF FILING:** Under § 1.97(b)(1), this information disclosure statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application. Although it is believed no fee is necessary, any deficiency in fees should be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-0308.

☐ **BEFORE FIRST OFFICE ACTION:** Under § 1.97(b)(3), this information disclosure statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. Although it is believed no fee is necessary, any deficiency in fees should be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-0308.

☐ **FOREIGN SEARCH REPORT:** Under § 1.97(e)(1), the undersigned certifies that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. Although it is believed no fee is necessary, any deficiency in fees should be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-0308.

☐ **BEFORE FINAL ACTION/WITH FEE:** Under § 1.97(e)(2), the undersigned certifies that no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement. This information shall be considered if filed before the mailing date of a final action if accompanied by a fee in the amount of \$240.00 as required by § 1.17(p). Accordingly, the necessary fee accompanies this information disclosure statement. Any overpayment or deficiency can be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-0308.

It is respectfully requested that the attached document(s) be considered and officially cited in examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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<b>Subst. Form PTO-1449</b>  <b>APPLICANT'S(S') INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>		<b>Atty. Docket No.:</b> D/A1057 XER 2 0440		<b>Serial No.:</b> Unknown	
		<b>Applicant(s):</b> David G. Bell, et al.			
		<b>Filing Date:</b> Herewith		<b>Group:</b> Unknown	

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Initial*		Document No.	Date	Name	Class	Subcl.	Filing Date
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	AB	5,715,403	02/03/1998	Stefik			11/23/1994
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	AK	5,444,779	08/22/1995	Daniele			07/29/1994

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OTHER ART		
	AR	"Will Fatbrain.com's New Model Work?" by Chet Dembeck; E-Commerce Times, 09/10/1999; article found 01/08/02 at <a href="http://www.ecommercetimes.com/perl/story/1205.html">http://www.ecommercetimes.com/perl/story/1205.html</a>
	AS	"Seybold: Fatbrain takes Publishing to the Masses" by James Niccolai; IDG News Service, 08/31/1999; Network World Fusion News; article found 01/08/02 at <a href="http://www.nwfusion.com/news/1999/0831fatbrain.html">http://www.nwfusion.com/news/1999/0831fatbrain.html</a>
	AT	"IBM to Unveil Digital Music Copy Protections" by Dawn C. Chmielewski; Mercury News, 01/21/2001; article found 01/08/02 at <a href="http://www.iarchive.c...s/jan-01/IBMunveildigitalmusic.htm">http://www.iarchive.c...s/jan-01/IBMunveildigitalmusic.htm</a>

Examiner:	Date Considered:
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\* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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		<b>Applicant(s):</b> David G. Bell, et al.			
		<b>Filing Date:</b> Herewith		<b>Group:</b> Unknown	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Initial*		Document No.	Date	Name	Class	Subcl.	Filing Date
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	BB						
	BC						
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		Document No.	Date	Country	Class	Subcl.	Translation?
	BL						
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	BN						
	BO						
	BP						

OTHER ART		
	BR	"Chris MacAskill CEO, Mighty Words", interviewed by David Needle, 08/07/2000; Tech Week Talking Points; article found 01/08/02 at <a href="http://www.techweek.com/articles/8-07-00/talk.htm">http://www.techweek.com/articles/8-07-00/talk.htm</a>
	BS	
	BT	

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